TABLE OF CONTENTS

SH 2520874

AUDIO VIDEO TRACKING SHEET

OFFICER INVOLVED SHOOTING FORM

INVESTIGATIVE SUMMARY

INTERVIEW TRANSCRIPTS AND AUDIO

EXHIBITS

MISCELLANEOUS DOCUMENTS

South Los Angeles Station, Incident History, November 15, 2020, Tag 20

South Los Angeles Station, Unit History, November 15, 2020, Early Morning Shift, Unit 31B - Deputy Seno and Deputy Johnson

South Los Angeles Station, In-Service, November 15, 2020, Early Morning Shift

Administrative Rights Force / Shooting Investigation Forms

California Commission on POST Confidential Profile Report and Training Records for Deputy Johnson, Raymond

California Commission on POST Confidential Profile Report and Training Records for Deputy Seno, Matthew

SH-AD-32A (8/17)

COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES

SHERIFF'S DEPARTMENT

"A Tradition of Service Since 1850"

DATE: October 17, 2022

FILE NO: 020-09760-0373-013

OFFICE CORRESPONDENCE

FROM: JASON P. WOLAK, COMMANDER
PROFESSIONAL STANDARDS DIVISION

TO: MONICA L. BOTELLO, ACTING CAPTAIN
SOUTH LOS ANGELES STATION

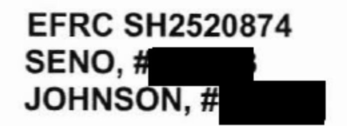
SUBJECT: **EXECUTIVE FORCE REVIEW COMMITTEE FINDINGS**

Case Number:	SH2520874
Incident:	Hit Shooting
Incident Date:	November 15, 2020
Unit:	South Los Angeles Station
Suspect(s):	Sam Conner MB/100564
Involved Employees:	Deputy Matthew Seno, #[redacted] Deputy Raymond Johnson, #[redacted]
EFRC Date:	September 15, 2022
Statute Date:	November 14, 2022

The Executive Force Review Committee (EFRC) consisting of Commanders Valerie E. Silgero, Edward C. Ramirez, and Jason P. Wolak (Chair) met and reviewed the above case.

FINDINGS:

The EFRC determined the tactics and force used by Deputies Seno and Johnson in this incident were within Department policy. The Panel concurred with the Los Angeles District Attorney that Deputies Seno and Johnson acted lawfully in self defense and in defense of others when they used deadly force against Suspect Conner.



RECOMMENDATIONS:

The Panel noted that the deputy personnel in this incident acted professionally, and in a sound, tactical manner while in a highly stressful situation. Life saving measures were performed on the suspect as soon as it was tactically safe to do so. The Panel had no recommendations for training in this incident.

Central Patrol Division Chief April Tardy concurred with the findings and recommendations of the Panel.

JPW:DJW:djw



LOS ANGELES COUNTY DISTRICT ATTORNEY'S OFFICE
BUREAU OF PROSECUTION SUPPORT OPERATIONS
JUSTICE SYSTEM INTEGRITY DIVISION

GEORGE GASCÓN • District Attorney
JOSEPH F. INIGUEZ • Chief of Staff

• Director

November 8, 2021

Captain Joe Mendoza
Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department
Homicide Bureau
1 Cupania Circle
Monterey Park, California 91755

Re: Fatal Officer Involved Shooting of Sam Conner
J.S.I.D. File #20-0426
L.A.S.D. File #020-09760-0373-013

Dear Captain Mendoza:

The Justice System Integrity Division of the Los Angeles County District Attorney's Office has completed its review of the November 15, 2020, fatal shooting of Sam Conner by members of the Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department. Our detailed analysis of this incident is contained in the attached memorandum.

Very truly yours,

GEORGE GASCÓN
District Attorney

ALAN YOCHELSON
Head Deputy District Attorney
Justice System Integrity Division

c: Deputy Raymond Johnson, #[redacted]
Deputy Matthew Seno, #[redacted]

Hall of Justice
211 West Temple Street, Suite 1200
Los Angeles, CA 90012
(213) 974-3888
Fax: (213) 626-5125

MEMORANDUM

TO:	CAPTAIN JOE MENDOZA Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department Homicide Bureau 1 Cupania Circle Monterey Park, California 91755
FROM:	JUSTICE SYSTEM INTEGRITY DIVISION Los Angeles County District Attorney's Office
SUBJECT:	Fatal Officer Involved Shooting of Sam Conner J.S.I.D. File #20-0426 L.A.S.D. File #020-09760-0373-013
DATE:	November 8, 2021

The Justice System Integrity Division of the Los Angeles County District Attorney's Office has completed its review of the November 15, 2020, fatal shooting of Sam Conner by Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department (LASD) Deputies Raymond Johnson and Matthew Seno. We have concluded that the deputies acted in lawful self-defense and defense of others.

The District Attorney's Command Center was notified of the shooting at 3:20 a.m. on November 15, 2020. The District Attorney Response Team responded to the location and was given a briefing regarding the circumstances surrounding the shooting and a walk-through of the scene.

The following analysis is based on investigative reports, audio recordings of witness interviews, photographs, a 9-1-1 call, radio traffic, and witness statements submitted to this office by LASD Detectives Louie Aguilera and Maria Maciel. The voluntary statements of Deputies Johnson and Seno were considered as part of this analysis.

FACTUAL ANALYSIS

The 9-1-1 Call

On November 15, 2020, at 1:49 a.m., [redacted] called 9-1-1 and reported a "5150" man, later identified as Sam Conner, standing in the middle of the street and pointing a blue steel handgun at passing motorists.[1]

The Shooting

Deputies Johnson and Seno were in uniform and on patrol in a marked patrol vehicle. They received a radio call of a man with a gun and drove to the location. They saw Conner standing in the street and pointing a gun at the driver of a car. Johnson stopped the patrol car, Seno exited,

[1] "5150" is colloquial for a person who has mental illness.

and both deputies drew their service weapons. Johnson did not have time to exit the patrol car. Conner pointed the gun at the deputies. Both deputies fired their service weapons at Conner, striking him five times. The deputies called paramedics who transported Conner to the hospital where he died. An aerial photograph of the scene showing the proximity between the deputies' patrol vehicle and where Conner fell to the ground after being shot is shown below, with Conner's gun circled in red:

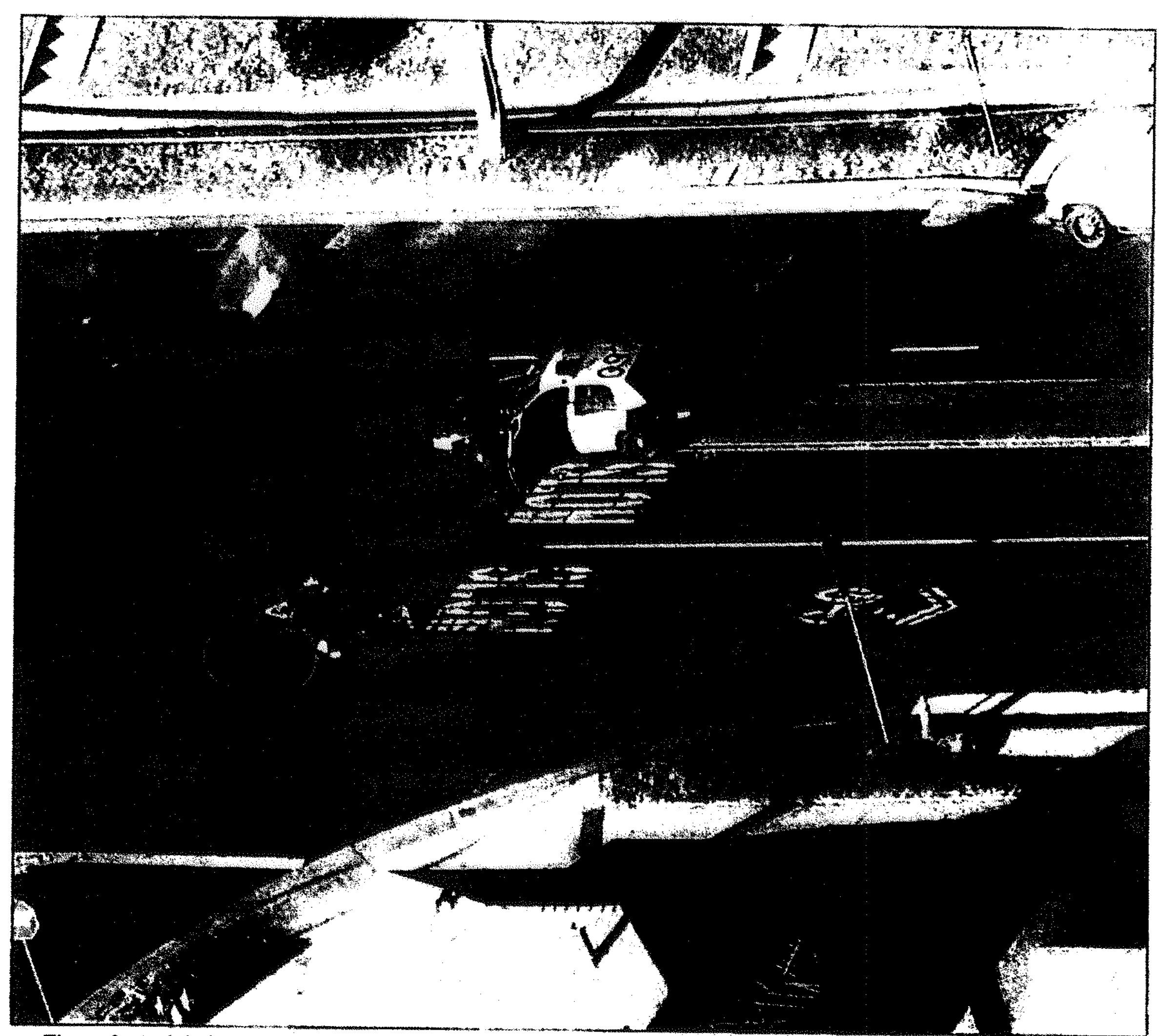


Figure 1- Aerial photo of the patrol car and the area where Conner fell after being shot. Conner's gun is circled in red.

Conner's Gun

Conner was armed with a .357 magnum revolver loaded with one live .38 caliber round and five expended .357 caliber cartridge casings.[2] Photographs of Conner's gun are shown below:

[2] A .357 caliber revolver fires both caliber rounds.

Figure 2- Conner's loaded .357 magnum revolver.

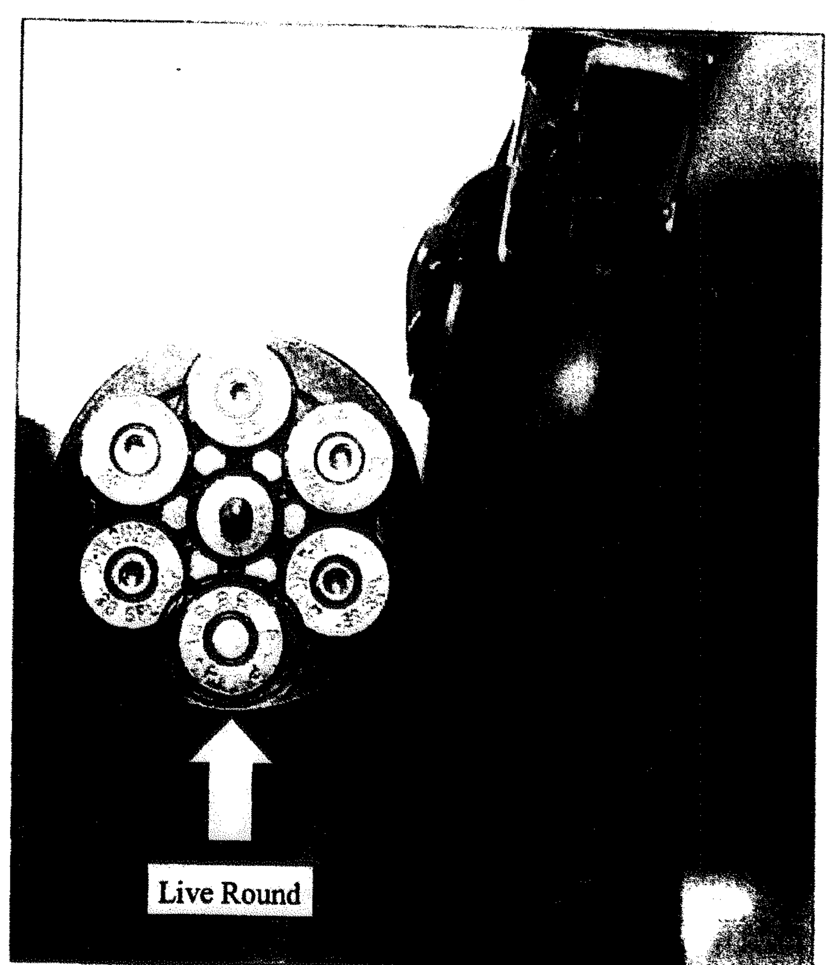


Figure 3- Photo of Conner's gun with five expended rounds and one live round.

Firearms Evidence

Both deputies were armed with 9mm semiautomatic handguns. Fifteen expended cartridge casings were recovered at the scene. Based on a magazine and round inventory conducted after the shooting, Seno fired twice, and Johnson fired 13 times. It cannot be determined with certainty which rounds struck Conner.

Video Evidence

The deputies were not wearing body worn video. A canvass of the scene was conducted, and no surveillance video was recovered.

[redacted] Statement

[redacted] told investigators he saw a man in the street acting like a "mad man," holding a dark colored handgun, and "harassing" a passing vehicle, so he called 9-1-1. Deputies arrived and moments later [redacted] saw the man turn toward the deputies and he heard gunshots. He said he did not see the details of the shooting because of poor lighting, but he saw the man fall after the shots were fired.

[redacted] Statement

[redacted] is Conner's [redacted]. She told investigators that Conner was diagnosed with severe schizophrenia, frequently talked to himself, was not under the care of a doctor, had not been taking his medication, and had learned to live with his mental illness.

Deputy Seno's Statement

Seno told investigators he was on patrol with Johnson and was the right front passenger in the patrol car. They received a radio broadcast of a man with a gun who was standing in the middle of the street. They drove to the location and saw the man, later identified as Conner, standing in the street and pointing a gun at a passing motorist. Johnson stopped the patrol car approximately 15 to 18 feet away from Conner and tried to draw Conner's attention away from the passing motorist. Seno exited the patrol car, drew his service weapon, and yelled at Conner, "Drop the gun!" Conner turned toward Johnson and Seno and pointed the gun at them. Seno feared that Johnson, who was closer to Conner, would not be able to find cover and would be shot while still seated in the patrol vehicle. While standing behind his door frame on the passenger side of the patrol car, Seno fired four to five rounds at Conner. Johnson, who did not have time to exit the patrol car before the shooting, fired his duty weapon at Conner from the driver's seat. Conner fell to the ground with the gun in his hand. Seno requested medical assistance for Conner.

Deputy Johnson's Statement

Johnson told investigators he was on patrol with Seno when they received a radio call of a man with a gun standing in the middle of the street. They drove to the location and saw Conner pointing a gun at the driver of a passing vehicle. Given the gravity of the situation, Johnson considered driving the patrol car into Conner to prevent him from shooting the motorist. Instead, Johnson stopped the patrol car. Conner immediately started walking toward the patrol car while pointing a gun at them.

Johnson thought Conner was going to kill him and his partner. Johnson thought about being shot and killed and thought about his [redacted] Johnson put his foot on the brake pedal and fired at Conner seven to eight times while still in a seated position in the patrol car, through the open driver's side window. Johnson also heard Seno fire his service weapon. Conner fell to the ground, stilling holding the gun as he landed on top of it. The deputies held Conner at gunpoint and Seno radioed for help.

The Autopsy

Deputy Medical Examiner Matthew Miller, M.D., performed a postmortem examination of Conner's remains and determined that Conner had been shot in the head, neck, abdomen, right thigh, and left lower leg. The direction of three of the gunshot wounds was front-to-back. One wound had an undetermined direction and the another was left to right and upward. The cause of death was multiple gunshot wounds. A toxicology analysis was performed and showed that Conner had the presence of cocaine in his system at the time of his death.

LEGAL ANALYSIS

The Law

California law permits the use of deadly force in self-defense or in the defense of others if the person claiming the right of self-defense or the defense of others actually and reasonably believed that he or others were in imminent danger of great bodily injury or death. Penal Code section 197; *People v. Randle* (2005) 35 Cal.4th 987, 994 (overruled on another ground in *People v. Chun* (2009) 45 Cal.4th 1172, 1201); *People v. Humphrey* (1996) 13 Cal.4th 1073, 1082; *see also*, CALCRIM No. 505.

A peace officer is justified in using deadly force upon another person when the officer reasonably believes, based on the totality of the circumstances, that such force is necessary for either of the following reasons: (1) to defend against an imminent threat of death or serious bodily injury to the officer or to another person; or (2) to apprehend a fleeing person for any felony that threatened or resulted in death or serious bodily injury, if the officer reasonably believes that the person will cause death or serious bodily injury to another unless immediately apprehended. Penal Code section 835a(c)(1)(A) and (B).

A threat of death or serious bodily injury is imminent when, based on the totality of the circumstances, a reasonable officer in the same situation would believe that a person has the present ability, opportunity, and apparent intent to immediately cause death or serious bodily injury to the peace officer or another person. An imminent harm is not merely a fear of future harm, no matter how great the fear and no matter how great the likelihood of the harm, but is on that, from appearances, must be instantly confronted and addressed. Penal Code section 835a(e)(2).

When considering the totality of the circumstances, all facts known to or perceived by the peace officer at the time, including the conduct of the officer and the subject leading up to the use of deadly force is taken into consideration. Penal Code section 835a(a)(4) and (e)(3). The peace officer's decision to use force is not evaluated with the benefit of hindsight and shall account for

occasions when officers may be forced to make quick judgments about using force. Penal Code section 835a(a)(4).

In evaluating whether a police officer's use of deadly force was reasonable in a specific situation, it is helpful to draw guidance from the objective standard of reasonableness adopted in civil actions alleging Fourth Amendment violations. "The 'reasonableness' of a particular use of force must be judged from the perspective of a reasonable officer on the scene, rather than with the 20/20 vision of hindsight... The calculus of reasonableness must embody allowance for the fact that police officers are often forced to make split-second judgments—in circumstances that are tense, uncertain, and rapidly evolving—about the amount of force that is necessary in a particular situation." *Graham v. Connor* (1989) 490 U.S. 386, 396-397.

Analysis

The evidence presented shows that Conner was armed with a loaded and operable handgun and presented an imminent and deadly threat to the public and the deputies. The deputies saw Conner pointing a gun at a motorist, which corroborated the 9-1-1 call they received. The situation unfolded so rapidly that Johnson considered running Conner over with the patrol car in order to protect the motorist from what reasonably appeared to be an imminent deadly threat. By the time Johnson stopped the patrol car, Conner was already walking toward the deputies, from close range, and pointing the gun at them. Johnson did not have time to get out of the patrol to deploy any less-lethal means to protect himself and his partner. Seno had cover behind the patrol car and was not in position to use less-lethal means nor did he have time to do so. If the deputies hesitated or did nothing, they would have risked their lives and the lives of others. Their decision to use deadly force to stop the deadly threat Conner presented was reasonable and necessary.

CONCLUSION

We find that Deputy Seno and Deputy Johnson acted lawfully in self-defense and in defense of others when they used deadly force against Sam Conner.

Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department

Officer Involved Shooting

Report Date: 07-05-2022	Bureau/Station/Facility: South Los Angeles Station	Admin. Invest.? ☐	Hit? ☑

Incident Information

URN: 020-09760-0373-013	Date: 11/15/2020 Time: 0151 hours
City or Station: South Los Angeles	Nature of Incident: Deputies responded to a person with a gun call. Upon arrival the suspect ignored an order to drop the gun. The suspect pointed the gun toward the deputies and a deputy-involved shooting occurred.
Location: Van Ness Avenue / Van Wick Street, Los Angeles	

Location Type (check one or more):
- ☐ Backyard
- ☐ Beach
- ☐ Business
- ☐ Freeway
- ☐ Industrial
- ☐ Park
- ☐ Parking Lot
- ☐ Residence
- ☐ Rural
- ☐ School
- ☑ Street
- Other:

Lighting (check only one):
- ☐ Darkness
- ☐ Daylight
- ☐ Other
- ☑ Street Lights

Weather (circle only one):
- ☑ Clear
- ☐ Cloudy
- ☐ Fog
- ☐ Rain

Distance: 10-15 Feet

Incident Type (check one or more):
- ☐ Accidental
- ☑ Armed Person
- ☐ Fleeing Suspect
- ☐ Foot Pursuit
- ☐ Gun Take Away
- ☐ Moving Vehicle
- ☐ Sniper/Ambush
- ☐ Startle
- ☐ Struggle Involved
- ☐ Traffic Stop
- ☐ Unarmed Person
- ☐ Unintentional
- ☐ Vehicle Pursuit
- ☐ Warrant Service
- ☐ Warning Shot
- Other:

Initiated by (check only one):
- ☐ Arrest Warrant
- ☑ Call
- ☐ Observation
- ☐ One Person Unit
- ☐ Other
- ☐ Search Warrant
- ☐ Two Person Unit

Prior Activity (check only one):
- ☐ Detective
- ☐ Inmate Transport
- ☐ Other
- ☑ Routine Patrol

Aero Unit? ☐ Canine Unit? ☐

Total # of Shots Fired by Deputy	Total # of Shots Fired by Suspect
12	0

Employee Witnesses

Employee #	Last Name	First Name	M.I.	ShiftTime (check only one)	ShiftType (check only one)
				☐ EM ☐ PM ☐ Day	☐ Regular ☐ Overtime ☐ Off Duty
				☐ EM ☐ PM ☐ Day	☐ Regular ☐ Overtime ☐ Off Duty
				☐ EM ☐ PM ☐ Day	☐ Regular ☐ Overtime ☐ Off Duty

Non-Employee Witnesses

Last Name	First Name	M.I.	Street Address	City	Zip Code	Work Ph	Home Ph
[redacted]	[redacted]	-	[redacted]	[redacted]	[redacted]	-	[redacted]
[redacted]	[redacted]	[redacted]	[redacted]	[redacted]	[redacted]	-	[redacted]

Supervisors

Employee #	Last Name	First Name	M.I.	(check one or more)
[redacted]	Guskos	Nikos	A	☑ On Duty ☐ Present during shooting ☐ Witness to shooting ☐ Involved in shooting
				☐ On Duty ☐ Present during shooting ☐ Witness to shooting ☐ Involved in shooting

Watch Sergeant

Employee #	Last Name	First Name	M.I.
[redacted]	Gutierrez	Samuel	NMN

Watch Commander

Employee #	Last Name	First Name	M.I.
[redacted]	Milroy	Kimberly	D.

PSTD Use Only
SH # 2520874

Officer Involved Shooting

URN: 020-09760-0373-013

Rollout Information

Arrival Date	Arrival Time	Date Submitted	Date of Recommendation
11/15/20	0450 hours		

Employee #	Last Name	First Name	M.I.
[redacted]	Walker	Deryl	T
[redacted]	Rose	Michael	L
[redacted]	Ruiz	Andy	U

Shooting / Force Information

Method

(AW) Arwen
(BC) Baton:(Control)
(BI) Baton:(Impact)
(BF) Bodily Fluids
(CN) Canine
(CR) Carotid Restraint
(CH) Choke Hold
(CT) Control Holds:(Control Techniques)
(TT) Control Holds:(Team Takedown)
(TD) Control Holds:(Takedown)
(CE) Chemical
(OC) Chemical Agents (OC Spray)
(TG) Chemical Agents (Tear Gas)
(EX) Explosives
(FH) Firearm (Handgun)
(FR) Firearm (Rifle)
(FS) Firearm (Shotgun)
(FO) Firearm (Other)
(FB) Flashbang
(FL) Flashlight
(OE) Other Weapon: Edged
(OV) Other Weapon: Vehicle
(OB) Other Weapon: Blunt Object
(OO) Other Weapon: Other
(PK) Personal Weapon: Feet/Leg: (Kick)
(PS) Personal Weapon: Feet/Leg: (Sweep)
(PH) Personal Weapon (Hand/Arm)
(PP) Personal Weapon (Push)
(PO) Personal Weapon (Other)
(RS) Resistance
(CN) Restraint Device (Capture Net)
(RH) Restraint Device (Handcuffs)
(HB) Restraint Device:Hobble (Legs Only)
(TP) Restraint Device:Hobble (TARP)
(RE) Restraint Device: REACT Belt
(SP) Sap
(SH) Shield
(SG) 37mm Stinger
(SB) Sting Ball
(ST) Stun Bag
(TR) Taser
(UC) Uncooperative

Type of Injury

(AB) Abrasion
(BR) Bruise
(BU) Burn
(CP) Complaint of Pain
(CO) Concussion
(DH) Death
(DI) Dislocation
(DB) Dog Bite
(FR) Fractures
(GS) Gunshot
(HB) Human Bite
(LC) Lacerations
(ND) Nerve Damage
(OD) Organ Damage
(PA) Paralysis
(PW) Puncture Wound
(SD) Soft Tissue Damage
(ST) Sprain/Twists
(UN) Unconscious
(RM) Refused Med Treatment
(NN) NONE

Body Part Injured

(AD) Abdomen
(AK) Ankle
(AR) Arm
(BK) Back
(BT) Buttocks
(CH) Chest
(EL) Elbow
(FA) Face
(FE) Feet
(FI) Fingers
(GE) Genitals
(GR) Groin
(HD) Hand
(HE) Head
(HI) Hip
(IN) Internal
(KN) Knees
(LE) Leg
(NK) Neck
(SH) Shoulder
(WR) Wrist

Brand

(AK) AK-47
(BN) Benelli
(BR) Beretta
(BW) Browning
(CH) Charter Arms
(CO) Colt
(DA) Davis Industries
(GL) Glock
(HA) Harrington & Richardson
(HI) Hi Standard
(HK) H & K
(IT) Ithica
(IV) Iver Johnson
(JE) Jennings
(LO) Lorcin
(LU) Luger
(MA) Marlin
(MO) Mossberg
(NC) NCI aka SKS
(NA) North American
(NO) Norinco
(RA) Raven
(RM) Remington
(RG) RG
(RI) RGI
(RO) Rossi
(SW) Smith & Wesson
(SR) Sturm Ruger
(SS) SIG Sauer
(ST) Sterling
(TA) Taurus
(WE) Weatherby
(WN) Winchester
(US) US Government
(YY) Handmade (Inmate)
(XX) Homemade (Non-Inmate)
(ZZ) Other Brand

Caliber

(9) 9 mm
(10) 10 mm
(12) 12 guage
(20) 20 guage
(21) .22-250
(22) .22 caliber
(23) .223 caliber
(24) .243 caliber
(25) .25 caliber
(30) .308 caliber
(35) .357 caliber
(36) 30-60 caliber
(38) .38 caliber
(40) .40 caliber
(41) .410 guage
(44) .44 caliber
(45) .45 caliber
(50) 50 mm
(SL) Slug
(WW) Other caliber

FORCE APPLIED *(one code per block)*

Used By (E# or S#)	Used Against (E# or S#)	Method (Code)	Brand (Code)	Caliber (Code)	Authorized Weapon? (Y/N)	Authorized Ammunition? (Y/N)	Type of Injury (Code)	Body Part (Code)
S1	E1	FH	SW	.357	N	N	NN	N/A
SI	E2	FH	SW	.357	N	N	NN	N/A
E1	S1	FH	SW	9MM	Y	Y	GS	HE AD LE
E2	S1	FH	SW	9MM	Y	Y	GS	HE AD LE

See Front Side

Officer Involved Shooting
Involved Employee Information

URN: 020-09760-0373-013

Involved Employee

E 1

Employee # [redacted]	Last Name: Seno	First Name: Matthew	M.I.: R.
Sex: M Race: A	Rank: DSG	Unit Assignment: SLA	Work Assignment (Unit #, Module, etc.): 31B
ShiftTime (*circle only one*): ☑ EM ☐ PM ☐ Day	ShiftType (*circle only one*): ☑ Regular ☐ Overtime ☐ Off Duty	Intoxication/Drug Usage? ☐	Substance Used: N/A
Hospital Admission? ☐	Hospital Name:	Coroner Case? ☐	Coroner Case #: N/A — Interviewed? ☑
Hrs of sleep prior to shooting: Unk. / Age: [redacted] Height: 506 Weight: 165	Duty Time (hrs): [redacted]	Clothing (*circle only one*): ☐ Plain Clothes no Vest ☐ Plain Clothes w/ Vest ☐ Raid Jacket no Vest ☐ Raid Jacket w/ Vest ☐ Uniform no Vest ☑ Uniform w/ Vest	Other Factors: None
Range Qualification Date: [redacted]	PPC Qualification Date: [redacted]	Laser Training Date: [redacted]	
Certified with Weapon Used? [redacted]	Patrol Certification? [redacted]	Certification Unit: [redacted]	Prior Shootings? [redacted] Number of Prior Shootings: [redacted] Directed Force: [redacted]
Weapons Fired Brand: Smith & Wesson	Caliber: 9mm # Shots: 3	Weapons Fired Brand: N/A	Caliber: # Shots:
Field Training Officer Emp # [redacted]	Last Name: [redacted]	First Name: [redacted]	M.I.: [redacted]
Field Training Officer Emp # [redacted]	Last Name: [redacted]	First Name: [redacted]	M.I.: -

E 2

Employee # [redacted]	Last Name: Johnson	First Name: Raymond	M.I.:
Sex: M Race: H	Rank: DSG	Unit Assignment: SLA	Work Assignment (Unit #, Module, etc.): 31B
ShiftTime (*circle only one*): ☑ EM ☐ PM ☐ Day	ShiftType (*circle only one*): ☑ Regular ☐ Overtime ☐ Off Duty	Intoxication/Drug Usage? ☐	Substance Used: N/A
Hospital Admission? ☐	Hospital Name:	Coroner Case? ☐	Coroner Case #: N/A — Interviewed? ☑
Hrs of sleep prior to shooting: Unk. / Age: [redacted] Height: 604 Weight: 250	Duty Time (hrs): [redacted]	Clothing (*circle only one*): ☐ Plain Clothes no Vest ☐ Plain Clothes w/ Vest ☐ Raid Jacket no Vest ☐ Raid Jacket w/ Vest ☐ Uniform no Vest ☑ Uniform w/ Vest	Other Factors: None
Range Qualification Date: [redacted]	PPC Qualification Date: [redacted]	Laser Training Date: [redacted]	
Certified with Weapon Used? [redacted]	Patrol Certification? [redacted]	Certification Unit: [redacted]	Prior Shootings? [redacted] Number of Prior Shootings: [redacted] Directed Force: [redacted]
Weapons Fired Brand: Smith & Wesson	Caliber: 9mm # Shots: 12	Weapons Fired Brand: N/A	Caliber: # Shots:
Field Training Officer Emp # [redacted]	Last Name: [redacted]	First Name: [redacted]	M.I.: [redacted]
Field Training Officer Emp # [redacted]	Last Name: [redacted]	First Name: [redacted]	M.I.: -

E -

Employee #	Last Name:	First Name:	M.I.:
Sex: Race:	Rank:	Unit Assignment:	Work Assignment (Unit #, Module, etc.):
ShiftTime (*circle only one*): ☐ EM ☐ PM ☐ Day	ShiftType (*circle only one*): ☐ Regular ☐ Overtime ☐ Off Duty	Intoxication/Drug Usage? ☐	Substance Used:
Hospital Admission? ☐	Hospital Name:	Coroner Case? ☐	Coroner Case #: Interviewed? ☐
Hrs of sleep prior to shooting: / Age: Height: Weight:	Duty Time (hrs):	Clothing (*circle only one*): ☐ Plain Clothes no Vest ☐ Plain Clothes w/ Vest ☐ Raid Jacket no Vest ☐ Raid Jacket w/ Vest ☐ Uniform no Vest ☐ Uniform w/ Vest	Other Factors:
Range Qualification Date:	PPC Qualification Date:	Laser Training Date:	
Certified with Weapon Used? ☐	Patrol Certification? ☐	Certification Unit:	Prior Shootings? ☐ Number of Prior Shootings: Directed Force: ☐
Weapons Fired Brand:	Caliber: # Shots:	Weapons Fired Brand:	Caliber: # Shots:
Field Training Officer Emp #	Last Name:	First Name:	M.I.:
Field Training Officer Emp #	Last Name:	First Name:	M.I.:

Officer Involved Shooting
Suspect Information

Suspect Information

S 1	Last Name: Conner		First Name: Sam	M.I. H
	AKA Last Name: Corner		First Name: Sam	M.I. -
	Sex: M Race: Black	Street Address: [redacted]	City: [redacted]	State & Zip Code: [redacted] [redacted]
	Work Phone: -	Home Phone: -	Social Security #: [redacted] / [redacted]	Driver's License #: [redacted]
	Age: 56 D.O.B. 10-05-1964	Height: 601 Weight: 190	FBI #: [redacted]	CII #: [redacted]
	Booking #: None	Primary Charge: 245(d)(1)PC, ADW on a PO (Firearm)	Secondary Charge: None	
	Coroner Case? ☑	Coroner Case #: 2020-10636	Intoxication/Drug Usage? ☑	Substance Used: Cocaine
	Armed? ☑	Apprehended? ☑	Mental Illness? ☑	Criminal History? [redacted]
	Vehicle Make: N/A		Model:	Year:

S -	Last Name:		First Name:	M.I.
	AKA Last Name:		First Name:	M.I.
	Sex: Race:	Street Address:	City:	State & Zip Code:
	Work Phone:	Home Phone:	Social Security #:	Driver's License #:
	Age: D.O.B.	Height: Weight:	FBI #:	CII #:
	Booking #:	Primary Charge:	Secondary Charge:	
	Coroner Case? ☐	Coroner Case #:	Intoxication/Drug Usage? ☐	Substance Used:
	Armed? ☐	Apprehended? ☐	Mental Illness? ☐	Criminal History? ☐
	Vehicle Make:		Model:	Year:

S -	Last Name:		First Name:	M.I.
	AKA Last Name:		First Name:	M.I.
	Sex: Race:	Street Address:	City:	State & Zip Code:
	Work Phone:	Home Phone:	Social Security #:	Driver's License #:
	Age: D.O.B.	Height: Weight:	FBI #:	CII #:
	Booking #:	Primary Charge:	Secondary Charge:	
	Coroner Case? ☐	Coroner Case #:	Intoxication/Drug Usage? ☐	Substance Used:
	Armed? ☐	Apprehended? ☐	Mental Illness? ☐	Criminal History? ☐
	Vehicle Make:		Model:	Year:

S -	Last Name:		First Name:	M.I.
	AKA Last Name:		First Name:	M.I.
	Sex: Race:	Street Address:	City:	State & Zip Code:
	Work Phone:	Home Phone:	Social Security #:	Driver's License #:
	Age: D.O.B.	Height: Weight:	FBI #:	CII #:
	Booking #:	Primary Charge:	Secondary Charge:	
	Coroner Case? ☐	Coroner Case #:	Intoxication/Drug Usage? ☐	Substance Used:
	Armed? ☐	Apprehended? ☐	Mental Illness? ☐	Criminal History? ☐
	Vehicle Make:		Model:	Year:

COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES
SHERIFF'S DEPARTMENT

INVESTIGATIVE SUMMARY

INCIDENT:	**On-Duty Hit Shooting, Suspect Deceased**
IAB FILE #:	**SH 2520874**
URN #:	**020-09760-0373-013**
DATE/TIME:	**November 15, 2020 / 0151 hours**
LOCATION:	**Van Wick Street and Van Ness Avenue, Los Angeles, CA 90047**

SYNOPSIS

On November 15, 2020, an Internal Affairs Bureau (IAB) Force and Shooting Rollout Team, comprised of Sergeant Michael Rose, #[redacted], Sergeant Andy Ruiz, #[redacted], and Lieutenant Deryl Walker, #[redacted], responded to Van Wick Street and Van Ness Avenue, Los Angeles, regarding an on-duty deputy involved hit shooting. Sam Conner (hereafter referred to as Suspect Conner) sustained four gunshot wounds. He was transported to Harbor-UCLA Medical Center where he was pronounced deceased at 0314 hours. The involved deputies were not injured during the incident.

IAB Sergeant Rose confirmed the on-duty watch commander, Lieutenant Kimberly Milroy, #[redacted], ensured the involved personnel did not discuss the incident amongst themselves prior to being interviewed by the assigned investigators.

Homicide Bureau Investigators Louie Aguilera, #[redacted] and Maria Maciel, #[redacted], under the supervision of Lieutenant Brandon Dean, #[redacted] arrived and assumed control of the shooting investigation. Homicide Bureau Investigators Aguilera and Maciel prepared a homicide casebook documenting this incident **[Exhibit A]**.

On July 20, 2021, this case was reassigned to IAB Sergeant Brian Mann, #[redacted]

SUMMARY

On November 15, 2020, Deputies Raymond Johnson, #[redacted], and Matthew Seno, #[redacted], were assigned to South Los Angeles Station, working in a marked patrol vehicle as Unit 31B. Deputy Johnson was the driver and Deputy Seno was the passenger. Both deputies were wearing a Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department Class "A" uniform and not equipped with body-worn cameras.

On November 15, 2020, at 0151 hours, South Los Angeles Station received a 9-1-1 call from Witness [redacted]. The caller reported a male with a gun at the intersection of 111th Street and Van Ness Avenue, Los Angeles. A priority call for service was dispatched to station personnel. Refer to incident number SLA20320-0016 **[Miscellaneous Documents]**. Deputies Johnson and Seno were assigned as the handling unit. Three other units assigned themselves to assist with the call. The assisting units were Unit 31D, Deputies Eduardo Rodriguez, #[redacted], and Jonathan Stewart, #[redacted], Unit 32, Deputies Christopher Leonardi, #[redacted], and Kevin Walker, #[redacted], and Unit 34, Deputies Joseph Rodriguez, #[redacted], and Daniel Smith, #[redacted].

The response was coordinated by Deputy Seno, which included a Taser and "less lethal" weapons. A response from Aero Bureau was requested. Deputies Johnson and Seno were first to arrive on scene, approximately two minutes after the call was dispatched. They noticed Suspect Conner, who matched the description provided by the caller, standing in the intersection of Van Ness Avenue and Van Wick Street. From approximately two to three houses away, Suspect Conner was seen pointing a firearm at an occupied vehicle. Deputies Johnson and Seno believed Suspect Conner was going to shoot or carjack the occupant of the vehicle.

IAB Note: **215(a) PC "Carjacking" is the felonious taking of a motor vehicle in the possession of another, from his or her person or immediate presence, or from the person or immediate presence of a passenger of the motor vehicle, against his or her will and with the intent to either permanently or temporarily deprive the person in possession of the motor vehicle of his or her possession, accomplished by means of force or fear.**

Deputy Johnson drove the patrol vehicle toward Suspect Conner. As their patrol vehicle slowed, Deputy Seno yelled for Suspect Conner to drop the gun. Suspect Conner turned toward the patrol vehicle and pointed a firearm in the direction of the deputies. Deputy Johnson stopped the vehicle approximately ten to eighteen feet from Suspect Conner. Suspect Conner was on the driver's side of the patrol vehicle.

Deputes Johnson and Seno feared Suspect Conner was going to shoot and kill them. Deputy Johnson, while seated in the patrol vehicle, fired at Suspect Conner through the open driver's side window. Deputy Seno fired at Suspect Conner while standing behind the passenger's side doorframe. Deputies Johnson and Deputy Seno heard each other fire at Suspect Conner. Suspect Conner fell to the street while still holding the firearm. Deputy Seno utilized his radio to advise they were involved in a shooting and requested paramedics to respond to their location.

Arriving deputies were advised Suspect Conner was down and still holding the firearm. Deputies formulated a tactical approach to take Suspect Conner into custody and to render medical aid. The firearm was moved away from Suspect Conner's reach, and he was handcuffed. To effectively render medical aid, Suspect Conner was unhandcuffed

and the deputies provided medical treatment until paramedics arrived. Suspect Conner was transported to Harbor-UCLA Medical Center with multiple gunshot wounds. Suspect Conner was pronounced deceased at 0314 hours on November 15, 2020.

DISTRICT ATTORNEY'S LETTER OF OPINION

The Los Angeles County District Attorney's Office, Justice System Integrity Division (JSID) attorney reviewed the November 15, 2020, fatal officer involved shooting of Suspect Conner. In their letter of opinion **[Exhibit B]**, dated November 11, 2021, Head Deputy District Attorney Alan Yochelson concluded Deputies Johnson and Seno acted lawfully in self-defense and in defense of others when they used deadly force against Suspect Conner.

INVOLVED PERSONNEL AND WORK HISTORY

Deputy Raymond Johnson, #[redacted]
Central Patrol Division / South Los Angeles Station

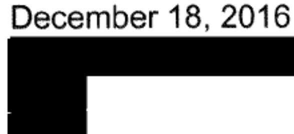
Date of Employment:	March 13, 2014
Date Assigned to South Los Angles Station:	December 18, 2016
Date Completed Patrol Training:	[redacted]
Prior Shooting Incident(s):	
Prior Category 3 Force Incidents:	



Equipment Worn by Deputy Johnson:
Deputy Johnson was wearing a Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department Class "A" uniform with a protective vest. He was wearing a Sam Browne belt containing his Smith & Wesson M&P 9mm firearm, two handcuff cases with handcuffs, baton holder with collapsible baton, radio holder with portable radio, two key holders, oleoresin capsicum (OC) spray, and magazine holder with two magazines.

Deputy Matthew R. Seno, #[redacted]
Central Patrol Division / South Los Angeles Station

Date of Employment:	August 13, 2015
Date Assigned to South Los Angles Station:	December 18, 2016
Date Completed Patrol Training:	[redacted]
Prior Shooting Incident(s):	
Prior Category 3 Force Incidents:	



Equipment Worn by Deputy Seno:
Deputy Seno was wearing a Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department Class "A" uniform with a protective vest. He was wearing a Sam Browne belt containing his Smith & Wesson M&P 9mm firearm, two handcuff cases with handcuffs, baton holder with collapsible baton, radio holder with portable radio, set of keys, oleoresin capsicum (OC) spray, and magazine holder with two magazines.

SUSPECT INFORMATION

Sam H. Conner – Male, Black, DOB: 10/05/1964, 6'01", 190 lbs.
[redacted]
CII # [redacted] FBI # [redacted], MAIN # [redacted]

The Consolidated Criminal History Reporting System (CCHRS) revealed Suspect Conner [redacted]. Suspect Conner's CCHRS report is included in the Homicide Bureau casebook **[EXHIBIT A, page 61-102]**.

WITNESS INFORMATION

Employee Witnesses

None

Civilian Witnesses

[redacted]

SUSPECT INJURIES

Suspect Conner sustained four gunshot wounds:
One gunshot to the bridge of his nose
One gunshot to his left shoulder / neck region
One gunshot to his left lower abdomen
One gunshot to his right thigh.

The Homicide Bureau Casebook **[Exhibit A]** contains the County of Los Angeles – Department of Medical Examiner-Coroner – Autopsy Report, Pages 128-151. Contained within the Autopsy Report is the Laboratory Analysis Summary Report, Pages 143-144, indicating the presence of cocaine, marijuana, and methamphetamine.

DEPUTY PERSONNEL INJURIES

None

PHYSICAL EVIDENCE

All physical evidence was located and collected by Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department Homicide Bureau and Scientific Services Bureau personnel. The descriptions of the evidence and where it was collected was documented in the Homicide Bureau casebook **[Exhibit A, pages 22-43 and 103-120]**.

INVESTIGATORS OBSERVATIONS

The scene was described in detail by Homicide Bureau Investigators Steve Blagg, #[redacted], and Vincent Choi, #[redacted]. Assisting the Homicide Bureau investigators processing the crime scene were, Forensic Identification Specialist Erika Di Palma Ramadan, #[redacted], Forensic Identification Specialist II Gloria Hanna, #[redacted], Senior Criminalist Tracy Peck, #[redacted], and Senior Criminalist Cassandra Carlos, #[redacted]. For details, see the Homicide Bureau Casebook **[Exhibit A, page 103-114]**. Scientific Services Bureau personnel photographed the scene **[Exhibit C]**.

WEAPON USED BY DEPUTY JOHNSON AND DEPUTY SENO

Deputy Johnson fired twelve rounds from his Smith & Wesson, M&P, 9mm, semiautomatic pistol, serial number NES[redacted]. Deputy Johnson said his firearm was loaded with eighteen live rounds. During the deputy involved shooting, Deputy Johnson did a tactical reload. Deputy Johnson removed the partially loaded magazine containing five live rounds and ejected one live round at the scene, for a total of six live rounds remaining at the scene. He inserted a new magazine containing seventeen live rounds into his firearm. Scientific Services Bureau collected six live rounds at the scene (five in the magazine and one live round on the street). Homicide Bureau investigators counted seventeen live rounds in Deputy Johnson's firearm (sixteen in the magazine and one in the chamber).

Date last qualified: [redacted]

Deputy Seno fired three rounds from his Smith & Wesson, M&P, 9mm, semiautomatic pistol, serial number NEL[redacted]. Deputy Seno said his firearm was loaded with eighteen live rounds. Homicide investigators counted fifteen live rounds remaining in Deputy Seno's firearm.

Date last qualified: [redacted]

The firearms were examined, test fired, and determined to be functional by Firearms Identification Section, Senior Criminalist Marco Iezza, #[redacted] **[Exhibit A, pages 115-116]**.

WEAPON USED BY SUSPECT CONNER

Suspect Conner was armed with a Smith & Wesson revolver, .357 Magnum, model 19-4, black in color, black grips, six round cylinder, with serial number [redacted]. The firearm had one live round and five fired cartridge casings **[Exhibit A, page 33]**.

> **IAB Note: Supervising Criminalist Catherine Navetta, #[redacted], advised on May 23, 2022, that Suspect Conner's weapon was not examined, or test fired due to the firearm being a revolver.**

PROPERTY DAMAGE

A crime scene examination by Senior Criminalist Tracy Peck, #[redacted], discovered bullet holes to a Subaru Forester, Grey, CA license [redacted] Bullet holes were located to the left fender, left rear passenger door, and left side of the rear bumper cover. The damage was documented and part of the Homicide casebook **[Exhibit A, Page 113-114]**.

A crime scene examination by Homicide Detectives Choi and Blagg discovered two bullet holes to a residence at [redacted] The locations of the bullet holes were to the north facing garden window glass pane and east facing garden window glass pane **[Exhibit A, Page 38]**.

CRIMINAL INVESTIGATION / CHARGES FILED

None

LIGHTING AND WEATHER CONDITIONS

The incident took place at approximately 0151 hours on November 15, 2020. Deputy Johnson, during the Homicide Bureau interview, described the location as dark. During the IAB interview, Deputy Johnson described the street as well-lit by streetlights, the patrol vehicle's headlights, and the driver's side spotlight. Deputy Seno, during the Homicide Bureau interview, described the location as illuminated by streetlights and their patrol vehicle's headlights. During the examination of the crime scene, it was determined the patrol vehicle's driver side spotlight was on and pointed southeast. The passenger's side spotlight was on and pointed downward. The headlights and overhead lightbar were not activated **[Exhibit A, page 40]**.

IAB Note: Crime scene photos [Exhibit C] show the headlights to the patrol vehicle were on.

For the nearby city of Hawthorne, The National Weather Service recorded the visibility as clear with a high of 82 degrees and a low of 51 degrees; at 0153 hours the temperature was 53 degrees. On this day, there was a new moon, making the night sky dark.

RADIO TRANSMISSION:

IAB investigators obtained and reviewed all the radio traffic and the cold line communications for this deputy involved shooting. The following is a synopsis of the radio traffic and the cold line. The entire radio traffic and cold line communications were placed on a disk **[Exhibit D].**

Dispatch Chanel 12
(Times are based on the audio player's time stamp)

(00:00) Unrelated radio traffic.

(14:45) Sheriff's Communications Center's (SCC) notified Aero Bureau and dispatched Unit 31B to Tag 16, a 417 (person with a gun) call.

(16:05) Air 24 acknowledged, responding from the city of Bellflower, and switching to L-TAC.

(16:15) Unit 31B advised 10-97 (arrived at scene) to the 417 call.

(17:00) Unit 31B advised 10-33 (request emergency clearance) asking for the duplex patch.

(17:06) Unit 31B advised 998 (officer involved in shooting), gave location, direction facing, identified suspect as 245 / 417 (assault with a deadly weapon / person with a gun), suspect down, requested 902R (rescue responding) to stage, gave location for staging.

(17:30) Unit 30S (field sergeant) responding from the Station.

(17:34) Unit 31B advised "All units are" - cut off by another unit transmitting. Unit 31B repeated 417 suspect down.

(17:41) SCC advised to hold the air for emergency traffic. SCC repeats Unit 31B's broadcast. Advised all deputies are accounted for and 902R was being requested.

(17:57) SCC requested a unit to respond in one minute. Multiple units transmitted.

(18:05) SCC advised to hold the air for Unit 31B.

(18:12) Unit 31B advised they were waiting for paramedics; suspect was still down with a gun.

(18:22) Aero asked for a unit to acknowledge them.

(18:24) Unit 31B asked for a contact team.

(18:31) SCC acknowledged the request for a contact team and advised paramedics were responding.

(18:35) Aero asked if there were any outstanding suspects.

(18:49) Unit 31B advised there were no outstanding suspect and requested an ETA for paramedics.

(18:59) Assisting units begin setting up crime scene containment.

(19:05) Unit 31B advised to wait on the crime scene containment while they detain the suspect and to hold the air.

(19:52) Unit advised they were attempting to detain the suspect, but the gun was still next to the suspect.

(20:00) Unit asked for an ETA for paramedics. SCC advised they would check on the ETA for paramedics.

(20:18) Unit 31B asked to reserve a tactical frequency. SCC advised A-TAC 2 was available.

(20:30) SCC asked Unit 31B if it was clear for paramedics to respond into the scene. Unit 31B advised it was clear for paramedics to respond into the scene.

(20:35) Air 24 advised they were overhead.

(20:45) Air 24 and an assisting unit coordinated an inner and outer containment.

(21:05) Unit advised the suspect was handcuffed and awaiting paramedics.

(24:34) Air 24 advised paramedics were responding.

(25:06) Unit advised Unit 30S the command post would be located at South Los Angeles Station.

(26:15) Unit advised deputies had been rendering aid and paramedics were on scene.

(26:35) Air 24 continued to set up the containment and advised of a white truck parked in the area that may be a witness. SCC did not repeat Air 24's information about the white truck.

(29:03) Air 24 asked for other stations to respond code 3 (emergency – use red lights and siren) for crime scene preservation and containment.

(30:43) SCC patched in Carson Station, Century Station, and Compton Station and requested two units to respond code 3 to the crime scene.

(33:07) Air 24 advised containment was established, and it was appropriate to switch to A-TAC2.

(33:24) Unit advised units to switch to A-TAC2 for a roll call.

(33:48) SCC advised channel was clear at 02:11 hours.

L-TAC
(Times are based on the audio player's time stamp)

(00:00) 01:39 hours.

(00:15) Unit 31B coordinated 417 call. Unit 35T1 advised he was responding with a "less lethal" weapon. Unit 31B advised Unit 35T1 to respond from a particular direction and to look for the suspect when responding.

(01:06) Unit 31B coordinated response with Unit 35D. Unit 35D advised they were responding with a Taser. Unit 31B advised Unit 35D to respond from a particular direction and to look for the suspect when responding.

(01:45) Dispatch advised Unit 35 about a second caller with a possible address of "[redacted] or [redacted]".

(02:10) Unit 31B asked Unit 35D to check the vicinity "of the new location". Unit 35D acknowledges the request.

IAB Note: **[redacted] is approximately five miles away from the call Unit 31B was coordinating at Van Wick Street and Van Ness Avenue.**

Unit 35D/PM (1600–0200) Deputy Mitchell, Darrol, #[redacted], was assigned Taser 21.

(06:13) Dispatch advised the units on the 417 call an informant was on the phone indicating the male was still in the middle of the street.

(08:35) Unit asked Dispatch to call every station for assistance. Dispatched advised other stations were notified and the informant was still on the phone with dispatch.

(09:24) Dispatch advised which stations were sending units to assist and advised Inglewood PD would be responding for traffic control.

(10:03) unrelated traffic.

A-TAC
Times are based on the audio player's time stamp)

(00:13) Unit responding code 3 asking for the command post.

(00:38) Unit responding code 3 asking for the command post. Command Post acknowledged.

(01:10) Air 24 coordinated crime scene / containment set up.

(05:45) Command post advised unit to standby for a roll call.

(05:25) Air 24 continued to coordinate containment.

(08:15) Air 24 advised the command post that the containment was set up and they were going to depart.

(11:24) Command post started roll call for containment positions.

(17:00) Roll call continued, and adjustments made to the containment.

(24:00) Unit requested to have Inglewood PD relieved from their containment positions.

(27:58) 30D asked the command post if there were any unit available to handle calls for service.

(28:40) Command post made adjustments to have units available for calls for service.

Cold Line Communication

IAB Note: South Los Angeles Station's dispatch center had a Cold Line communication line where the station's watch commander and Sheriff's Communications Center's (SCC) bridge can communicate.

(00:00) 01:54 hours.

(00:26) SCC Bridge – South Los Angeles Station Watch Commander Lieutenant Kimberly Milroy, #[redacted], asked if Aero was requested. SCC Bridge advised they will check.

(00:53) Aero is heard on the radio.

(04:20) Lt. Milroy advised since the suspect was handcuffed, she will call back if needed.

STATEMENTS

The following narratives are intended only as a summation of the actual interview(s). Additional information and the precise wording may be obtained by reviewing the digital audio recordings and transcriptions. IAB investigators reviewed all reports authored by the involved Department personnel.

INVOLVED PERSONNEL

DEPUTY RAYMOND JOHNSON

On November 15, 2020, at 0807 hours, Deputy Johnson, was interviewed by Homicide Bureau Investigators Aguilera and Maciel at the South Los Angeles Sheriff's Station. Deputy Johnson was represented by Attorney Ken Yuwiler, from the offices of Rains, Lucia, Stern, St. Phalle & Silver, PC. This interview was summarized in the Homicide Bureau casebook **[Exhibit A, pages 26-27]**. The interview was transcribed and placed as a permanent record within the IAB case file.

On June 13, 2022, at 1302 hours, Deputy Johnson, was interviewed by IAB Sergeants Brian Mann and Paul Valle at the IAB office. Deputy Johnson was represented by Attorney Ken Yuwiler, from the offices of Rains, Lucia, Stern, St. Phalle & Silver, PC. The following is a summary of the interviews.

On November 15, 2020, Deputy Johnson was working the early morning shift at South Los Angeles Station. His unit of assignment was 31B, from [redacted] to [redacted] hours. Deputy Johnson's partner was Deputy Seno. Deputy Johnson was the driver and Deputy Seno was the passenger. Their assigned vehicle was a marked black and white patrol vehicle with a lightbar on the vehicle's roof. Both deputies were wearing a Class A uniform. Deputies Johnson and Seno were regular partners for over three years. During their time together, they frequently discussed handling priority and emergent calls for service and discussed what to do doing in particular scenarios.

On November 15, 2020, at approximately 0150 hours, Deputies Johnson and Seno were dispatched a man with a gun call at 111th Street and Van Ness Avenue, Los Angeles. They were assigned as the handling deputies for this call. The call described the armed man as a male Black wearing a grey top, denim jeans, and waving a gun in the middle of the street. Deputy Johnson said there were multiple units responding to this call. The call was dispatched as a priority call, not emergent.

IAB Note: **"Priority incidents are those that require an immediate response, but not a code three response."**

"Emergency incidents are anything requiring a code three response. As these incidents are dispatched, they will instantly be sent to the MDT and a duplicate to SCC to be voiced. As SCC Voices the incident, they will

automatically ask for an ETA Code 3. The SCC Dispatcher should only dispatch an incident as emergency if it is to be a Code 3 response."

Information obtained from the Desk Operations Manual, dated June 10, 2004.

When the call was dispatched, Deputies Johnson and Seno were less than a mile away from the location. While driving to the location, radio dispatchers on L-Tac provided updated information the male was still in the middle of the street with the firearm. They discussed a plan regarding stagging, observing their surroundings, and to strategically place responding units.

Deputy Johnson drove south on Van Ness Avenue, and as he got close to Van Wick Street, he noticed Suspect Conner pointing a firearm at a stopped white truck. When Deputy Johnson first observed Suspect Conner, their patrol vehicle was two to three houses north of Van Wick Street. Suspect Conner matched the description given in the call. Suspect Conner was on the street, pointing a firearm at the driver's side of the white truck. Suspect Conner stood close to the driver's door of the white truck. Deputy Johnson considered using the patrol vehicle to run over Suspect Conner. Deputy Johnson believed if he would have stopped the patrol vehicle before the intersection, Suspect Conner would have killed the occupant in the white truck. Deputy Johnson believed driving toward Suspect Conner would draw his attention away from the occupant in the white truck and save the occupant's life.

Deputy Johnson recalled Deputy Seno yelled commands to Suspect Conner to drop the gun. Suspect Conner turned and pointed a firearm in the direction of Deputies Johnson and Seno. Suspect Conner walked straight toward the patrol vehicle. Deputy Johnson applied the brakes, unholstered his firearm, and pointed his firearm in the direction of Suspect Conner. Deputy Johnson did not purposely select the location for the patrol vehicle to stop. Deputy Johnson applied the brakes and the patrol vehicle slowed and stopped approximately ten to fifteen feet from Suspect Conner. Deputy Johnson did not have time to put the vehicle in park. Fearing for his life and his partner's life, Deputy Johnson, while seated, used his left foot to hold open the driver's side door and used his firearm to fire through the open driver's side window at Suspect Conner. Deputy Johnson recalled firing at Suspect Conner approximately one second after the patrol vehicle came to a stop. He aligned his sights and fired center mass at Suspect Conner. Deputy Johnson consciously recognized his firing backdrop was a block wall. Deputy Johnson felt he did not have any other force options other than using his firearm and it was not practical to wait for less than lethal weapons from an assisting unit. Deputy Johnson had attended Department training where he was instructed on firing from a seated position in a patrol vehicle.

Deputy Johnson did not recall the pace he fired other than it being continuous, as he fired approximately seven to eight times. Suspect Conner fell to the ground while still holding a firearm. Deputy Johnson asked Deputy Seno if he was okay. When he

learned his partner was not injured, Deputy Johnson told Deputy Seno he was going to exit the vehicle. Deputy Johnson exited the patrol vehicle and stood in the open driver's side doorway. Deputy Johnson did a tactical reload, ejecting the magazine from his firearm onto the street. He inserted a fully loaded magazine into his firearm and racked the slide, ejecting a live round. Deputy Johnson did not know why he racked the slide, ejecting the live round.

Deputy Seno initiated emergency radio traffic. He indicated the deputy involved shooting, the location, crime involved, indicated the suspect was down and, requested for paramedics to stage. The field sergeant advised he was responding to the scene from South Los Angeles Sheriff's Station. Deputy Seno advised all deputies were accounted for and requested a contact team. Deputy Johnson detained Suspect Conner at gunpoint awaiting responding deputies. Once assisting units arrived, Deputies Johnson and Seno coordinated a contact team to take Suspect Conner into custody and provide medical treatment. Deputies rendered medical aid while waiting for paramedics. Suspect Conner was transported by ambulance to Harbor-UCLA Medical Center where he was pronounced deceased at 0314 hours.

Homicide Investigators Aguilera and Maciel conducted a round count for Deputy Johnson's firearm, Smith & Wesson M&P, serial number NES[redacted]. Deputy Johnson carried his firearm with seventeen rounds in the magazine and one round in the chamber, for a total of eighteen rounds. For the round count, Deputy Johnson's firearm contained a total of seventeen rounds, consisting of sixteen rounds in the magazine and one round in the chamber. During the shooting, Deputy Johnson fired twelve rounds from his firearm and did a tactical reload. During the tactical reload, he ejected the magazine which contained five live rounds and ejected a live round, which remained at the scene.

DEPUTY MATTHEW SENO

On November 15, 2020, at 0725 hours, Deputy Seno, was interviewed by Homicide Bureau Investigators Aguilera and Maciel at the South Los Angeles Sheriff's Station. Deputy Seno was represented by Attorney Ken Yuwiler, from the offices of Rains, Lucia, Stern, St. Phalle & Silver, PC. The interview was summarized in the Homicide Bureau casebook **[Exhibit A, pages 24-25]**. The interview was transcribed and placed as a permanent record within the IAB case file.

On June 13, 2022, at 1349 hours, Deputy Johnson, was interviewed by IAB Sergeants Brian Mann and Paul Valle at the IAB office. Deputy Johnson was represented by Attorney Ken Yuwiler, from the offices of Rains, Lucia, Stern, St. Phalle & Silver, PC. The following is a summary of the interview.

On November 15, 2020, Deputy Seno was working the early morning shift at South Los Angeles Station. He was assigned as Unit 31B, from [redacted] to [redacted] hours. Deputy Seno's partner was Deputy Johnson. Deputy Seno was the passenger and Deputy Johnson was the driver. Their assigned vehicle was a marked black and white patrol

vehicle with a lightbar on the vehicle's roof. Both deputies were wearing a Class A uniform.

On November 15, 2020, at approximately 0145 hours, Deputies Johnson and Seno were dispatched a man with a gun call. They were assigned as the handling deputies for this call. Deputy Seno recalled the call gave the description of the armed man as a male Black wearing a grey top, denim jeans, and waving a gun in the middle of the street. He said there were multiple units responding to this call.

When the call was dispatched, they were approximately two minutes away from the location. Deputies Seno and Johnson discussed options based on the suspect's actions. They discussed if Suspect Conner maintained possession of the firearm, dropped the firearm, ran with the firearm, or dropped the firearm and ran. They planned for the suspect giving up, but discussed the possibility of the suspect shooting at them. They drove south on Van Ness Avenue and when they got close to the location, he noticed Suspect Conner pointing a firearm at a white vehicle. When Deputy Seno first observed Suspect Conner, they were approximately two to three car lengths away from the suspect. Suspect Conner matched the description given in the call.

Deputy Seno said, "In my head, my thought was we need to get his attention off this innocent bystander that he's pointing the gun at and point his attention towards me and my partner to distract him from possibly shooting this innocent bystander or carjacking this innocent bystander. We continued to drive Southbound in attempts to gain his attention, to distract him. From inside the vehicle as my partner is slowing our patrol vehicle down, I open the door and I give verbal commands for him to drop the gun, at which point his attention is turned totally towards us and he turns towards me and my partner pointing the firearm." Deputy Seno believed Suspect Conner was pointing the firearm primarily at Deputy Johnson who was seated in the patrol vehicle without cover or concealment. When the vehicle stopped, Deputy Seno quickly exited the patrol vehicle and stood behind the open passenger's door. Suspect Conner was approximately fifteen to eighteen feet from the patrol vehicle. Fearing for both of their lives, Deputy Seno aligned his sights and fired four to five rounds over the patrol vehicle, aiming center mass at Suspect Conner. Deputy Seno recalled quickly firing his rounds at Suspect Conner, recognizing the firing backdrop as a brick wall. Suspect Conner fell to the ground, not dropping the firearm. Deputy Seno noticed Deputy Johnson was not injured.

Deputy Seno initiated emergency radio traffic regarding the deputy involved shooting and Suspect Conner needing medical treatment. Deputy Seno advised the suspect was down and still armed with a firearm. Deputy Seno coordinated the emergency response and requested paramedics to respond. He requested a contact team to take Suspect Conner into custody. When assisting units arrived, Deputy Seno saw deputies handcuff Suspect Conner and moved the firearm away from Suspect Conner's reach. Deputy Seno noticed the deputies unhandcuff Suspect Conner and provide medical treatment. Deputy Seno felt he did not have any other force options other than using his firearm and it was not practical to wait for less than lethal weapons from an assisting unit.

Deputy Seno believed he attended Department training where he was instructed on firing from and over a patrol vehicle. Homicide Investigators Aguilera and Maciel conducted a round count for Deputy Seno's firearm, Smith & Wesson M&P, serial number NEL[redacted] Deputy Seno carried his firearm with seventeen rounds in the magazine and one round in the chamber for a total of eighteen rounds in the firearm. For the round count, Deputy Seno's firearm contained a total of fifteen rounds, consisting of fourteen rounds in the magazine and one round in the chamber. During the shooting, Deputy Seno fired three rounds from his firearm.

CIVILIAN WITNESS STATEMENTS

WITNESS [redacted]

On November 15, 2020, at approximately 0740 hours, Homicide Bureau investigators Blagg and Choi interviewed Witness [redacted] Witness [redacted] was Suspect Conner's [redacted] She was not present and did not witness the deputy involved shooting. Witness [redacted] was a psychiatric social worker, therefore had a good understanding of Suspect Conner's mental health. Suspect Conner had a history of severe schizophrenia for over twenty years. Recently Suspect Conner did not take his psychiatric medication and had not seen a doctor. Suspect Conner had difficulty maintaining employment because he would talk to himself. Suspect Conner was unmarried and had no children. Witness [redacted] believed Suspect Conner did not own a firearm. Witness [redacted] felt Suspect Conner was full of wisdom but had a lot of struggles.

WITNESS [redacted]

On November 15, 2020, at approximately 0422 hours, Homicide Bureau investigator Sergeant Marvin Jaramilla, #[redacted] interviewed Witness [redacted] Witness [redacted] was driving in the area of Van Ness Avenue and Van Wick Street, Los Angeles, when he noticed Suspect Conner standing in the street, pointing a revolver at a white vehicle. He described Suspect Conner as "acting like a mad man." Witness [redacted] called 9-1-1 **[Exhibit E]** to report his observations. Witness [redacted] saw a patrol car arrive on scene. He recognized the vehicle as a patrol car due to the spotlight. Witness [redacted] saw Suspect Conner turn toward the patrol car. Due to a distance of approximately three hundred feet, Witness [redacted] was not able to see if Suspect Conner was holding a firearm. Witness [redacted] was also distracted while speaking on the phone to the 911 dispatcher. While in his vehicle with the windows rolled up, Witness [redacted] heard at least three consecutive shots. He did not hear any commands from the deputies. He believed the shots came from the patrol vehicle because after the shots, Suspect Conner fell to the ground.

SUSPECT STATEMENTS

SUSPECT SAM CONNER (None – Deceased)